

1636

Attorney's Docket No. 5718-34(35718/174234)

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#21

In re: Mahajan et al. Confirmation No.: 9734  
Appl. No.: 09/236,995 Group Art Unit: 1636  
Filed: January 26, 1999 Examiner: K. T. Katcheves  
For: POLY ADP-RIBOSE POLYMERASE GENE AND ITS USES

December 11, 2002

Box Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

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DEC 17 2002

AMENDMENT

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 11, 2002, Applicants respectfully request reexamination and reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following remarks.

### REMARKS

#### Status of the Claims

Claims 1-15 and 17-33 are pending in the present application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the claims are respectfully requested. The Examiner's remarks in the Office Action are addressed below in the order set forth in the Office Action.

#### Consideration of Previously Submitted Information Disclosure Statement

It is noted that initialed copies of each of the PTO Forms 1449 that were submitted with Applicants' Information Disclosure Statements filed April 29, 1999, June 24, 1999, March 6, 2000, and May 6, 2000, have not been returned to Applicants' representative with the Office Action. Accordingly, it is requested that initialed copies of these Forms 1449 be forwarded to the undersigned with the next communication from the PTO. In order to facilitate review of the references by the Examiner, copies of the Information Disclosure Statements and the Forms 1449 are attached hereto. Copies of the cited references were provided at the time of filing the